



Atty. Dkt. No. 081356-0266

*Itw/g*

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Tsunenori ARAI et al.  
Title: SHEATH REMOVAL HOLE CLOSING DEVICE USING LASER  
WELDING SCHEME  
Appl. No.: 10/589,803  
International Filing Date: 2/21/2005  
371(c) Date: 8/17/2006  
Examiner: Jeffrey Brian LIPITZ  
Art Unit: 3769  
Confirmation Number: 2407

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated March 15, 2010, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 4 of this document, and include an attached replacement drawing sheet showing changes.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this document.